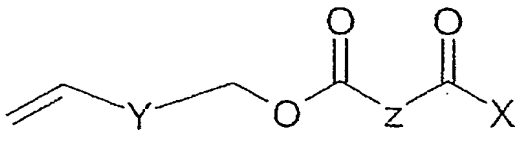
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I)



(I)

in which
X represents a group that activates the α-carbonyl function;
Y represents a linear or branched, saturated C_6-C_{20} aliphatic radical, optionally substituted with one or more C_1-C_{10} alkoxy radicals; and
Z represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated C_2-C_{10} aliphatic radical.

2. The compound as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that X represents a chlorine, bromine or fluorine atom, advantageously chlorine.

3. The compound as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that X represents an activating group chosen from the group consisting of a nitrogenous heterocyclic radical, a radical R-C(O)-O and a radical R-O-C(O)-O-, in which R represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated C_1-C_6 alkyl radical.

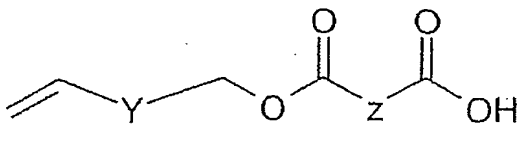
4. The compound as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that Z represents an aliphatic radical chosen from the group consisting of $-(CH_2)_2-$, $-(CH_2)_3-$, $-CH_2-CH(CH_3)-CH_2-$ and $-CH_2-C(CH_3)_2-CH_2-$.

5. The compound as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that Z represents the aliphatic radical $-(CH_2)_3-$ and Y

represents an octanediyl radical, of formula $-(CH_2)_8-$.

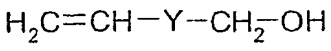
6. A process for synthesizing the compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that it comprises the following successive steps:

a) formation of an acid of formula (II)



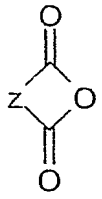
(II)

via acylation reaction of an alcohol of formula (III)



(III)

with an acid anhydride of formula (IV)



(IV)

in which Z, Y and n have the same meanings as those given for formula (I);

b) formation of the product of formula (I) via substitution of the -OH radical of the acid of formula (II) with a radical X, in which X has the same meaning as that given for formula (I).

7. The process as claimed in claim 6, characterized in that the synthetic reaction of step a) is performed by mixing, at a temperature of between 80 and 120°C, the acid anhydride of formula (IV) and the alcohol of formula (III).

8. The process as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that, following said mixing of the acid anhydride of formula (IV) and the alcohol of formula (III), the temperature of the reaction medium is maintained at a temperature of between 70 and 120°C.

9. The process as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 8, characterized in that the acid anhydride of formula (IV) is chosen from the group consisting of succinic anhydride, glutaric anhydride, 3-methylglutaric anhydride and 3,3-dimethyl-glutaric anhydride.

10. The process as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 9, characterized in that X represents chlorine.

11. The process as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that, in step b), a chlorinating agent chosen from the group consisting of phosgene, diphosgene, triphosgene, thionyl chloride and oxalyl chloride is used.

12. The process as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that when the chlorinating agent is phosgene, diphosgene or triphosgene, a catalyst chosen from the group consisting of disubstituted N,N-alkylamides is used.

13. The process as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 9, characterized in that X represents an activating group chosen from the group consisting of a nitrogenous heterocyclic radical, a radical R-C(O)-O and a radical R-O-C(O)-O-, in which R represents a linear or branched, saturated or unsaturated C_1-C_6 alkyl radical.

14. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, for increasing the

hydrophobic nature of polymers comprising amine functions by reacting said amine functions with said compound of formula (I) to form an amide bond.

15. The use as claimed in claim 14, for waterproofing and/or steam-permeabilizing natural textile fibers, especially wool or silk fibers.

16. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, for increasing the hydrophobic nature of polymers comprising hydroxyl functions by reacting said hydroxyl functions with said compound of formula (I) to form an ester bond.

17. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, for modifying the reactivity of oligosaccharides by grafting said compound of formula (I) onto at least one hydroxyl function of said sucrose via formation of an ester bond.

18. A support based on natural textile fibers comprising hydroxyl and/or amine functions onto which is grafted at least one compound as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5 via formation of an ester and/or amide bond with said hydroxyl and/or amine functions of said support, with the exception of supports based on cellulose fibers.

19. The support as claimed in claim 18, characterized in that the natural textile fibers are silk or wool fibers.